

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 3759

FOR EUR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LOWENSTEIN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, OTRA, NO

SUBJ: DEPUTY SECRETARY VISIT TO NORWAY

WE ARE NOW ABLE TO FINALIZE YOUR SCHEDULE PER YOUR REQUEST.

1. STOLTENBERG WILL MEET YOU AT THE STATION SUNDAY NIGHT AND SPEND THE EVENING WITH YOU.

2. AFTER WORKING LUNCH WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ON SEPT 8 YOU WILL MEET 3-5P.M. WITH INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF LABOR PARTY. EMBASSY DELIGHTED AT LONG-SOUGHT OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE EFFECTIVE SPEAKER MEET WITH THIS KEY GROUP, AND ENCOURAGED STOLTENBERG TO PRESERVE DESPITE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN PUTTING TOGETHER USEFUL QUORUM. HE HAS MANAGED CONVEENE GOOD GROUP REPRESENTING DIFFERENT CURRENTS IN LABOR PARTY. IN ADDITION TO STOLTENBERG, FOLLOWING PERSONS HAVE SAID THEY WOULD BE PRESENT:

REIULF STEEN, NEWLY ELECTED CONTROVERSIAL CHAIRMAN OF THE LABOR PARTY. STEEN SHARES WITH STOLTENBERG REPUTATION OF BEING SUBSTANTIALLY TO "LEFT" WITHIN PARTY AND MUCH MORE FLEXIBLE ON FOREIGN POLICY THAN SOLIDLY PRO-WESTERN "TRADITIONAL SOCIAL DEMOCRATS" WHO HAVE LED GOVERNMENT AND PARTY UNTIL NOW. BOTH MEN ARE CONCERNED NOT TO TARNISH THEIR REPUTATION ON THE LEFT FOR BEING MORE LEFTIST THAN THEY REALLY ARE, INORDER TO PRESERVE THEIR POLITICAL BASE AMONG PARTICULARLY YOUNGER ELEMENTS OF PARTY. THIS BALANCING

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ACT MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR THEM AT SAME TIME TO EARN CON-

FIDENCE OF TRADITIONAL SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC MAINSTREAM OF PARTY AND OVER COME SUSPICIONS OF OPPORTUNISM IN LABOR PARTY AND COUNTRY AT LARGE. STEEN WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN LAST APRIL IN COMPROMISE PACKAGE UNDER WHICH PARLIAMENTARY LEADER ODVAR NORDLI, CHAMPION OF "TRADITIONAL SOCIAL DEMOCRATS," WAS ENDORSED AS EVENTUAL SUCCESSOR TO PRIME MINISTER BRATTELI. MANY STEEN SUPPORTERS HOPE TO DELAY AND THUS PREVENT NORDLI'S SUCCESSION TO BRATTELI, KEEPING BRATTELI IN OFFICE UNTIL TIME IS RIPE FOR STEEN OR SOMEONE ELSE MORE TO "LEFT" TO BECOME PRIME MINISTRY. BOTH PRO AND ANTI-STEEN WINGS OF PARTY ARE REPRESENTED ON INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE. SPLIT TO SOME EXTENT IS BETWEEN INDEOLOGISTS AND PRAGMATIST, AND BETWEEN THOSE WHO BELIEVE LABOR SHOULD FOCUS ITS APPEAL ON "LEFT" TO REGAIN VOTERS LOST TO "SOCIALIST LEFT ALLIANCE AND THOSE WHO READ GALLUP POLL AND BELIEVE PARTY'S FUTURE LIES IN THE CENTER.

RONALD BYE, DIRECTOR, NORSK FOLKE-FERIE (LABOR MOVEMENT'S TRAVEL AGENCY-HANDLES TOURS TO USSR AND EASTERN EUROPE AMONG OTHER THINGS) , FORMER SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE LABOR PARTY. ANTI-STEEN.

TURID DANKERTSEN, MEMBER OF CITY COUNCIL AND OF ITS STAND ING COMMITTEE(OFRMANNSKAP), OFFICIAL OF OSLO SCHOOLD BOARD. STEEN SUPPORTER.

JACOB EITREM, LOCAL PRESIDENT OF IRON AND METAL WORKERS' UNION AT STANDARD TELEPHONE AND CABLE (ITT), PRESUMABLY A STEEN SUPPORTER ALONG WITH MOST OF IRON AND METAL'S OSLO LOCAL.

JOHAN JORGEN HOLST, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, NORWEGIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. LEADING WRITER ON STRATEGIC POLICY. CONSERVATIVE WING.

HARALD MUNTHE-KAAS, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COLUMNIST FOR ARBEIDERBLADET, SPECIALIZING IN MIDDLE EAST.

SISSEL RONBECK, PRESIDENT, LABOR YOUTH LEAGUE (LABOR PARTY YOUTH ORGANIZATION). STEEN SUPPORTER.
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KAARE SANDEGREN, INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY, NORWEGIAN TRADE UNION FEDERATION(LO), FORMER FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER, MIDDLE ROAD.

JOHAN THORUD, ARBEIDERBLADET FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT, SPECIALIZED IN PORTUGAL. OFTEN HIGHLY CRITICAL OF U.S.

TERTIT AASLAND, RADIO COMMENTATOR, SPECIALIZED IN DEVELOPMENT OF UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES, CHAIRPERSON OF INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE'S LDC SUB-COMMITTEE. WIFE OF DEFENSE MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARY. PROBABLY STEEN SUPPORTER.

TROND JOHANSEN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, NORWEGIAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE. WIFE IS ALSO IMPORTANT LABOR PARTY OFFICIAL. PROBABLY NORDLI SUPPORTER.

3. DEPENDING ON WHETHER YOU WISH TO JOIN DEPUTY SECRETARY AT 10:15 MEETING WITH EMBASSY STAFF SEPT.9, YOU WILL HAVE FREE TIME FOR EITHER 10A.M. OR 11 A.M. UNTIL LUNCHEON SCHEDULED AT 1:15 P.M. (LATE LUNCHEON HOUR IS TO ACCOMMODATE CERTAIN NORWEGIANS). IN PERIOD BEFORE LUNCHEON, WE CAN ARRANGE FOR FURTHER CALLS ON NORWEGIAN OFFICIALS, SIGHTSEEING OR SHOPPING TOUR OF OSLO, WE HAVE ONLY PARTIAL LIST AT THIS POINT OF GUESTS FOR TUESDAY, LUNCHEON, HAVING JUST LEARNED WHOM YOU WILL BE MEETING ON MONDAY. MANSFIELD WILL PROVIDE YOU THEREFORE WITH FULL LIST AND BIOGRAPHIC DETAILS WHEN HE SEES YOU IN BERGEN. SHOULD THERE BE SPECIFIC MEETINGS YOU WOULD LIKE US TO SET UP FOR TUESDAY MORNING, WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED ASAP IN ORDER TO TRY AND PIN DOWN OFFICIALS THIS WEEK.

4. WE ASSUME THERE IS NO CHANGE IN SCHEDULE AND MANSFIELD WILL MEET YOU ON SK 516 AT 1:05 P.M. SEPT. 6.
BYRNE

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